

Message Text

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ACTION ERDA-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07
IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 OES-06 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00
COME-00 /104 W

-----110723Z 001169 /12

R 110530Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6057

INFO AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 0201

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION, PHYSICAL SECURITY

REF: A) STATE 000758 B) 76 STATE 218344 (NOTAL)

C) 76 STATE 080067

1. SUMMARY: DURING CALL BY EMBOFF ON TURKISH ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION ON OTHER SUBJECT, TAEC OFFICIALS MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF VISIT BY ERDA PHYSICAL SECURITY SECURITY REVIEW TEAM IN NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE. TAEC HAD DISCUSSED THIS SUBJECT WITH ERDA AT IAEA MEETING AT RIO IN SEPTEMBER (REF B). TAEC OFFICIALS SAID THEY HAD SEEN ERDA REPORT, AND THAT MOST RECOMMENDED CHANGES HAD BEEN MADE AT CEKMECE. THEY SEEMED TO CONSIDER POSSIBLE ERDA VISIT AS NORMAL, REGULAR PROCEDURE. EMBASSY DOUBTS WHETHER ALL RECOMMENDED CHANGES HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED, BUT SHOULD ERDA AND DEPARTMENT DESIRE, AMCONGEN ISTANBUL WOULD BE WILLING TO VISIT CEKMECE. SHOULD ERDA AND DEPARTMENT DECIDE THAT REVIEW SHOULD BE CONDUCTED BY ERDA, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT WE DISCUSS THIS FIRST WITH ACTING SEC GEN OF TAEC. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING CALL OF EMBOFF ON AHMET ERTURAN, DEPUTY

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SECGENERAL (PHYSICAL SECURITY AND LICENSING) AND MRS. FAHRIYE KIPER, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, JANUARY 6 TO DISCUSS OTHER MATTERS, ERTURAN ASKED EMBOFF WHEN ERDA PHYSICAL SECURITY TEAM WOULD VISIT TURKEY. ERTURAN SAID THAT DURING BILATERAL DISCUSSION BETWEEN DR. NEJATI AYBARS OF TAEC AND ERDA OFFICIALS AT RIO IN SEPTEMBER, BOTH PARTIES HAD AGREED TO CONTINUING PHYSICAL SECURITY REVIEW ON SAFEGUARDS PROCEDURES TO

PROTECT FISSIONABLE MATERIAL. TAEC REALIZED THAT IT HAD MANY SHORT-COMINGS IN THE SECURITY AND SAFEGUARDS AREA AND DESIRED TO CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN CLOSE COOPERATION WITH ERDA. ERTURAN SAID TAEC HAD MADE CHANGES RECOMMENDED BY ERDA AT CEKMECE AND WOULD NOT BE ADVERSE TO NEW ERDA VISIT.

3. KIPER AND ERTURAN THEN TOLD EMBOFF OF TAEC NEGOTIATIONS WITH GENERAL ATOMIC (GA) FOR PURCHASE OF ONE 5 MW RESEARCH REACTOR FOR CEKMECE AND ONE 1 MW RESEARCH REACTOR FOR USE AT ISTANBUL NUCLEAR RESEARCH INSTITUTE AT ISTANBUL TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY. KIPER REFERRED TO SUBJECT OF REFTEL C RE TURKEY NEED TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL ENRICHED URANIUM TO FUEL PLANNED EXPANSION IN RESEARCH REACTOR CAPACITY. EMBOFF SAID HE WAS GENERALLY AWARE OF THIS MATTER BUT DID NOT GO INTO WHETHER GOT MIGHT BE WILLING TO RETURN ANY TR-1 REACTOR FUEL.

4. KIPER VOLUNTEERED, HOWEVER, THAT TURKISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAD APPROACHED DEPARTMENT WITH VIEW TO REVISING 1955 US-GOT AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION IN CIVIL USES ATOMIC ENERGY, WHICH SET NET CEILING FOR ENRICHED URANIUM AT 15 KILOGRAMS. KIPER SAID DEPARTMENT HAD TOLD TURKISH EMBASSY THAT ENTIRE QUESTION OF EXPORT CONTROLS ON NUCLEAR REACTORS AND ENRICHED URANIUM IS UNDER REVIEW BY CONGRESS AND THAT IT WOULD BE AT LEAST MID-1977 BEFORE ANY DISCUSSIONS ON REVISION OF 1955 US-GOT AGREEMENT COULD BEGIN.

5. COMMENT: BOTH ERTURAN AND KIPER PROFESSED UNDERSTANDING OF U.S. CONCERN AND NEED FOR STRICT SECURITY ACCOUNT-CONFIDENTIAL

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ABILITY AND EXPORT CONTROLS ON NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY, REACTORS AND ENRICHED URANIUM. BOTH EXPRESSED DESIRE FOR CLOSER WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH ERDA AND NRC, PARTICULARLY IN REGARD TO EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON LICENSING, SAFEGUARDS, PHYSICAL SECURITY AND TRAINING.

6. POSSIBILITY APPEARS SLIGHT OF ADVERSE REACTION IF ERDA VISITORS WERE TO POINT OUT DEFICIENCIES IN TURKISH SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS. TAEC PROFESSES TO UNDERSTAND NEED FOR STRICT SECURITY PROCEDURES AND, AS NOTED ABOVE, HAS ALREADY DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY OF FOLLOW-UP VISIT BY ERDA SECURITY TEAM. EMBASSY ALSO NOTES THAT DEFICIENCIES IN TURKISH SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS WOULD PRECLUDE EXPORTS OF TRIGGER QUANTITIES OF SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIALS TO TURKEY. ADVERSE REACTION TO EXPORT DENIAL WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY BE GREATER THAN ANY REACTION TO ERDA EFFORTS TO HELP TAEC UPGRADE ITS SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS.

7. CONSEQUENTLY, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT:

A) SHOULD DEPARTMENT AND ERDA AGREE THAT CONGEN VISIT

TO CEKMECE NUCLEAR CENTER TO LOOK INTO ALLEGED CORRECTIONS
IN SECURITY DEFICIENCIES WOULD BE BENEFICIAL, DEPARTMENT AND
ERDA PROVIDE MORE SPECIFIC GUIDE LINES AS TO WHAT EMBASSY
AND CONGEN SHOULD REVIEW WITH TAEC AND CEKMECE OFFICIALS.

B) SHOULD ERDA AND DEPARTMENT DECIDE THAT REVIEW
CAN BEST BE CONDUCTED BY ERDA TEAM, EMBASSY DISCUSS PLANNED
ERDA VISIT WITH ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL TULUNOGLU OF TAEC.
IF, AS WE ANTICIPATE, TULUNOGLU, ACTING ON RECOMMENDATIONS OF
ERTURAN, APPROVES OF VISIT, THEN EMBASSY COULD RECOMMEND THAT ERDA
OFFICIALS CARRY OUT PROPOSED REVIEW.
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